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DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM

MFG. 1-72

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EXDIS

SUBJECT: STATEMENT ON SALT TWO

REF: STATE 204981

1. REFERENCED STATEMENT GIVEN QUAI ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEVEL OFFICIAL NOV. 10 PER REFTEL. QUAI OFFICIAL EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR CONTINUED US EFFORT MAINTAIN CLOSE CONSULTATION ON SALT. HE UNDERSCORED PARTICULAR FRENCH INTEREST IN QUESTION OF FBS.

2. DEFENSE MINISTRY DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR, IN SEPARATE, LATER CONVERSATION, UNDERSCORED FRENCH INTEREST IN FBS ISSUE QUESTION OF NON-COMPENSATION FOR UK AND FRENCH SLBMS AND QUESTION OF NON-TRANSFER OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE SYSTEMS. HE ALSO EXPRESSED HOPE US WOULD CONTINUE PRACTICE OF DISCUSSING SALT ISSUES BILATERALLY WITH FRENCH ALONG LINES OF PAST CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN FRENCH AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON AND SENIOR DEPARTMENT AND ACDA OFFICIALS.

3. COMMENT: FRENCH WERE CLEARLY PLEASED WITH EXTENT OF CONSULTATION DURING SALT ONE. GIVEN THEIR EVEN GREATER INTEREST IN SALT TWO, EMBASSY HOPES US OFFICIALS WILL CONTINUE THIS HELPFUL PRACTICE. GDS.KUBISCH

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